

Hopkinton Conservation Commission
February 20, 2024 Meeting
Held at the Hopkinton Town Hall

2/20/2024 Minutes – Approved 4/16/24

Present: Ron Klemarczyk, Rob Knight, Melissa Jones, Jonathan Bradstreet;
Alternates: Molly Hardenbergh, Katherine Mitchell
Absent: James Newsom, Bob LaPree. Bonnie Christie, Stephanie Kratsios

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Ron Klemarczyk, Vice Chair.

1. HCC minutes for November 21, 2023 were accepted as presented.
2. HCC mail: No mail was received.
3. Five Rivers Conservation Plan: Presentation by Jeff Evans is rescheduled for the March HCC meeting.
4. Treasurer's report: Melissa Jones reported that at the end of January the balance in the Conservation account was \$161,315.56. Town Forest account was \$26,682.73. An expense of \$1,400 for mowing Rollins is being processed.
Rob Knight presented an invoice for \$236.25 from CAI for preparing a plan in conjunction with a trail easement. Jon Bradstreet moved to authorize payment, the motion was seconded by Melissa Jones and passed unanimously.
5. Trails: Committee has not met recently. Jon Bradstreet is interested in joining the committee.
6. Tyler Landing update: Ron Klemarczyk reported that the boat ramp has been moved to the parking lot by Jamie Robertson and the Bohanan farm crew.
7. Natural Resource Inventory: A presentation of the report by Elise Lawson is scheduled for March 6 at 5:30 [actually 6:00] at the library community room. Discussed inviting various town board members and officials. Katherine Mitchell agreed to send invitations to the Planning Board, ZBA, Open Space Committee, Neal Cass and the Select Board. And to post the meeting date on the town website. Discussed how often the report will need to be updated and whether we can do it ourselves.
8. Policy on commissioners making public comments as individuals: Ron Klemarczyk gave background information regarding past HCC practices regarding individual actions by members. The policy will be discussed next month when James Newsom can lead the discussion.
9. Use of Hawthorne Forest by Beech Hill School: The school wants to do a "forest solo" on 3/23. It is unclear what that entails. Ron Klemarczyk will meet with the school at Hawthorne Forest on 3/23 and lead a tour.
10. Legislative updates: Ron Klemarczyk reported that the legislature is considering legislation regarding carbon easements.

Jonathan Bradstreet made a motion, seconded by Melissa Jones to adjourn to non-public meeting per RSA 91 A:3 II (d) Acquisition of real estate. Vote was unanimous in favor. The Committee adjourned to non-public session at 7:47 PM. The Committee returned from non-public session at 8:15 PM. Jonathan Bradstreet made a motion, seconded by Melissa

Jones to seal the minutes until the project is able to go public or removed from consideration. Vote was unanimous in favor.

11. HCC membership: Melissa Jones intends to go off the HCC at the end of her term in March, but is willing to orient a new treasurer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM. Next HCC meeting is scheduled for 7:00 on March 19, 2024 at the Town Hall.

Minutes submitted by Rob Knight.